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PLAIN ENGLISH.

The Pro-Chow Jingo Traitor.

The recent enthusiasm of Queensland Premier Philp on behalf of Britain's enemy, the Chinaman, and his impassioned demand that that enemy shall still be allowed to pour into Queensland, and his general attitude of fervid Chow eulogy, are rather curious features of Australian "loyalty." Philp, be it observed, isn't an isolated case. The Tory party in Australia has been the head and centre of the late vast outburst of Jingoism, and it has yelled the reproach "Pro-Boer" with awful fury at everybody who was even suspected of not being gory enough in his mental attitude towards Britain's comparatively humane and respectable white enemy in S'Africa. Yet the same party is the head and centre of the Chinese cheap-labour movement — and has been all through the treasonable friend and coddler and practical supporter of the brutish yellow man, whose deathless hatred of Britain so lately flamed out afresh in Asia. Consider the relative merits of the situation:

(1) The Boer and the Chinaman both disliked and despised the Briton. The difference was that the Briton dwelt in peace and safety in Boer-land. In proportion to the number of British residents in the country the crimes committed upon British subjects in the Transvaal, and also the unpunished crimes committed on British subjects in the Transvaal, were less than those committed on British subjects in Australia. The Chinaman's hostility was of a different kind. It amounted

to about this: that in many parts of China merely to be a Briton was almost equivalent to sudden death.

(2) The Boer and the Chinaman each wanted to shift the Briton out of his country.

(3) The Boer Government started the shifting process with an open and honest declaration of war. The Chinese Government commenced by inciting mobs to ferocious murder.

(4) The Boer treated his British prisoners with a humanity beyond even the ordinary customs of many civilised nations. There is nothing in his war record to compare even remotely with such horrors as those of Andersonville prison in the U.S. civil war, or with many more like episodes, among civilised white races. And the Chinaman burned his prisoners over slow fires, and dragged naked white women through the streets with their breasts cut off, and led white men about still alive with hot cinders in their empty eye-sockets.

(5) The Boer never endangered the Empire. He represented a population of 150,000 (or, including his fellow- countrymen in Cape Colony, of perhaps 600,000), men, women and children all counted. There weren't enough of him to make one good-sized British city. And he was cut off from all prospect of assistance, and could raise no international complications. The Chinaman has entangled Britain in complications with Russia and France, has set Russian aggression going again in Asia, and has awakened a new and stupendous Eastern problem of which no one can see the end.

Unless anyone proposes to set up the absurd theory that the Briton is a most ungenerous individual, and never forgives the enemy who has beaten him in a fair fight, the attitude of the Jingo-Australian is unaccountable, except on the lowest and most mercenary motives. All over Australia men have been discharged from their situations, been despised, cursed, furiously-denounced in the Jingo press, and assaulted in public-houses, on suspicion of having some slight sympathy for the open and brave and humane white enemy. And meanwhile frantic Jingoes have kept their own countrymen out of employment that they might favour and patronise and coddle Britain's brutal and underhand yellow enemy. While they denounced any kindly feeling for the handful of white men fighting against stupendous odds, they have spoken kindly of the representatives of the yellow hordes who fried their own countrymen and country-women alive, and have

eulogised their alleged virtues, and have bought vegetables and furniture from Britain's enemies, and declared that Australia shouldn't be so narrow-minded and prejudiced as to seek to exclude the people who burn out the eyes of our British fellow-subjects. And Premier Philp has publicly declared his intense admiration of Britain's enemies, and asked Australia to encourage them, and not one Jingo of them all has called Philp a traitor to the empire. By tacit consent the great aggregate Jingo has decided that cheap labour is better than loyalty, and better than the interests of the empire; and that the empire's bitterest enemies should be patronised and supported as against good British subjects if they will sell the leprous vegetable even 1/2 d. a dozen cheaper than a white man can sell it at and make a living wage. The Jingo's patriotism seems to be a pitifully thin surface coating at the best.

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